Docket No.: R2180.0161/P161

(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: Yasushi Abe et al.

Application No.: 10/620,363 Confirmation No.: 8922

Filed: July 17, 2003 Art Unit: 2624

For: APPARATUS, PROGRAM, MEDIUM FOR Examiner: T. D. Lee

IMAGE-AREA SEPARATION, IMAGE PROCESSING AND IMAGE FORMING

AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

MS Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

In response to the Office Action dated May 1, 2007, please amend the aboveidentified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 12 of this paper.